EXPRESS MAIL NO.: EV 346 809 035 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Beat MOLLET et al.

Application No.: 09/823,772

Filed: March 30, 2001

Examiner: R. Hutson

Group Art Unit: 1652

For: NOVEL STRAINS OF THE BACILLUS

Attorney Docket No.: 88265-4011

SUBTILIS GROUP FOR FOOD

FERMENTATION

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR § 1.136(a)

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the time for response to the final Office Action dated December 13, 2002, be extended for a period of one (1) month from March 13, 2003, to and including Monday April 14, 2003.

The fee for this extension is estimated to be \$110.00. Please charge the required fee to Winston & Strawn Deposit Account No. 501-814.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 14, 2003

Allan A. Fanucci

(Reg. No. 30,256)

WINSTON & STRAWN CUSTOMER NO. 28765

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